

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for transporting a print material (2) covered on the front side with toner for printing on the back side, comprising the step of:
5 transporting print material (2) through a heater for pre-fusing toner on the front side of the print material (2) by heating over the toner glass transition temperature, and thereafter transporting the print material (2) for printing on the back side thereof.
- 10 2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said toner is heated by a transport belt (1) for the print material (2).
3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said transport of said print material (2) is by a transport belt (1) which is a conveyor belt.
- 15 4. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said transport belt (1) is heated by a heat source associated with the transport belt (1).
5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said heating
20 temperature is selectively controlled.
6. The method according to Claim 5, wherein said print material (2) covered on the front side with toner is heated to fusing temperature, prior to the back printing and the print material (2) is heated after the back side
25 printing only to a lower temperature than the fusing temperature.
7. The method according to Claim 5, wherein said transport belt (1) is heated to different degrees at different locations.
- 30 8. The method according to Claim 5, wherein said heating of the print material (2), is measured and heat is fed to the print material (2) in a controlled manner on the basis of the heat measurement.

9. A transport apparatus (4) for transporting print material (2), comprising: a transport belt (1), at least one heat source for pre-fusing toner on the front side of print material (2), transported by said transport belt (1) by heating the toner over the toner glass transition temperature before back side printing, and a switch for returning transported print material for back side printing.

10. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 9, wherein said at least one heat source is associated with said transport belt (1).

11. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 10, wherein said at least one heat source includes resistance wires (20) in said transport belt (1).

12. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance wires (20) are parallel to the direction of motion of the transport belt (1).

13. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance wires (20) are perpendicular to the direction of motion of the transport belt (1).

14. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 10, wherein said at least one heat source includes a screen.

15. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 14, wherein said screen includes individually controllable resistance wires (20).

16. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 15, wherein said controllable resistance wires (20) include titanium and/or tungsten.

17. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 10, wherein said at least one heat source includes perforated plates.

5 18. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 10, wherein said at least one heat source includes heater bands which can be bonded onto said transport belt (1).

10 19. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 10, further including a shaft encoder (15) on a drive roller (7, 7') for said transport belt (1) for sensing transport belt speed, and a controller (25) for switching off said at least one heat source when said transport belt (1) stops.

15 20. The transport apparatus (4) according to Claim 9, further including fusing rollers (10, 10'), downstream of said transport belt (1), which can be swiveled into operative relation with a transport path (14) for the print material (2) and swiveled to a position remote from the transport path (14).